

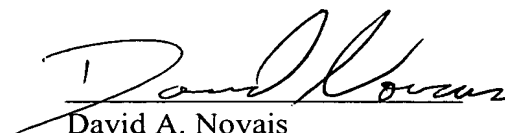
REMARKS

This Amendment is supplemental to the amendment mailed on July 9, 2004, and is being filed to include status identifiers to the claims set forth in the amendment mailed on July 9, 2004.

Also, being included is an Information Disclosure Statement with the cited art as requested by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing comments and the remarks set forth in the amendment mailed on July 9, 2004, it is submitted that the inventions defined by each of claims 1-6 and 9-18 are patentable, and a favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Novais", is written over a horizontal line.

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